

# Israeli state terror: Lebanon, Gaza

Attacking Lebanon, provoking a wider Middle East war, is a deliberate act by Israel permitted by the US and Britain.

Last month, exploding pagers and walkie-talkies announced the escalation. For nearly a year, Israel had traded limited fire with Hezbollah, the Lebanese military political group founded in 1982 to resist the Israeli occupation of Lebanon. Its war on Israel's northern border would end with a ceasefire in Gaza, Hezbollah said.

The limits vanished with the Israeli terror attack on 17-18 September which killed 37, including two children, violating international humanitarian law. Israel's Mossad made the pagers, inserted explosives and sold them to Hezbollah through a shell company, the NY Times revealed.

The UN called it "appalling". Foreign Secretary David Lammy did not. The Foreign Office urged "*calm heads and de-escalation*".

On 23 September Israel launched over 1,300 airstrikes on southern Lebanon, killing at least 558 including women, children and health care workers, and injuring over 1,800, the highest single-day death toll in Lebanon in decades.

## Assassinations

Days later, Israel assassinated Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, blowing up the apartment block with the group's HQ and killing at least 33. Israeli F-15 fighter jets (Boeing) dropped US-made 2,000lb bunker-buster bombs (Lockheed-Martin).



After an Israeli strike on Beirut's southern suburbs 20 Sept. AFP/via Getty Images

Biden and Harris welcomed Nasrallah's assassination, despite civilian deaths and risk of wider war. Lammy simply called for a ceasefire and told UK citizens to leave Lebanon ASAP. With a few exceptions, UK arms exports continued.

## Intelligence or Stupidity?

The Lebanon adventure needed **permission from the US**. In mid-September Israeli officials spoke with Presidential adviser Amos Hochstein and Middle East coordinator Brett McGurk. The U.S. agreed with Netanyahu's broad strategy to shift the military focus to the north against Hezbollah, because there was no prospect of a Gaza ceasefire.

Hezbollah always made clear that the war would stop if there was a ceasefire in Gaza. Netanyahu sabotaged each ceasefire offer. In July, Israel assassinated Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran. Assassinating resistance leaders means **pretending there can be peace without justice**.

But along with wilful blindness and permission from the boss, assassinations need **military intelligence**. When Hezbollah joined the war in Syria to preserve the Assad regime, Israel built up profiles of its commanders, officers and members. This data was combined with electronic eavesdropping, drone surveillance, and spies within Lebanon. It was analysed with Artificial Intelligence.

UK spy planes conduct extended surveillance over **Gaza**. Israeli computers chose Hamas targets for assassination, even at home with their families, with formulas for 'collateral damage'. Killing one commander allowed up to 100 civilian deaths. These are **war crimes, fast-tracked with AI**.

The carnage continues, with attacks all over Gaza. ►